

THE CALEDONIAN.  
ST. JOHNSBURY, VT.  
PUBLISHED BY STONE & CO. PUBLISHERS  
No. 10, North of Court House.  
Subscription prices: In advance, per annum, \$1.50; in arrears, \$2.00. Single copies, 5 cents each.  
Advertisements: For one square for 15 lines, first insertion, 25 cents; second, 15 cents; third, 10 cents. For longer advertisements, apply to the publisher.

# The Caledonian.

VOL. 27--NO. 37. ST. JOHNSBURY, VT., FRIDAY, MAR. 11, 1864. WHOLE NO. 1389

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Manufacturer of Leather and Harness, and Saddlery, 25, Johnson Street.  
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C. J. Bowker, work on highway 41 50  
John Bishop, work on highway 16 00  
John Bacon, services as state agent for volunteers' families 60 00  
H. W. Ayer, work on highway and digging graves 20 25  
O. W. Baker, recording births and deaths 6 15  
St. Johnsbury Cemetery Association, digging graves 71 25  
L. G. Wheaton, work on highway 3 75  
L. H. Stowell, taxes on town farm 55 20  
do collecting taxes 10 00  
John Emerson, support of poor 637 64  
J. M. Miles, abatement of A. L. Livingston tax, 1861 5 26  
L. H. Stowell, abatement on taxes 159 54  
Franklin Richardson, plank 20 53  
Jana Lawrence, work on highway 20 55  
Claremont Manufacturing Co., book of records 18 00  
H. Hastings, services as town clerk 42 39  
D. Chapman, 2d, snowing bridge 6 00  
B. Moulton, services as treasurer 25 00  
Paddock, Fletcher & Brown, auditors 12 00  
J. M. Miles, snowing bridge 4 00  
B. Moulton, money paid out and making taxes 15 50  
B. Moulton, services as selectman 100 00  
J. H. Applebee, money paid out do services as selectman 100 00  
J. F. Dean, work on bridge 18 40  
Sylvanus Graves, work on highway 4 50  
C. Morrill, money paid out do services as selectman 100 00  
L. L. Rice, damages caused by insufficiency of highway 15 00  
L. B. Flint, care of town hall 5 00  
H. S. Wright, agent for purchase of liquor 602 90  
B. Moulton, interest on U. S. money credited to school fund 171 00  
Nathl Heath, damages on road 6 00  
E. C. Redington, postage on soldiers' warrants 20 00  
E. A. Parks, damage on highway 3 00  
Interest paid by treasurer on two orders 1 70  
\$5305 05  
B. MOULTON, }  
C. MORRILL, } Selectmen.  
J. H. APPLEBEE, }

The March Magazines.  
Godey's Lady's Book for March is before us. The number is a good one, and the steel plate is superior. We must acknowledge that Godey excels in steel engraving. This first class magazine is down to its old price this year, and is now circulating monthly about 150,000 copies. Published at Philadelphia, Penn.

The Atlantic Monthly for March contains articles entitled, The Queen of California; The Brother of Mercy, by John G. Whittier; Ambassadors in Bonds, by Caroline Chesbro; Wet-Weather Work, V, by Donald G. Mitchell; Part 2 on the Relation of Art to Nature, by J. Elliot Cabot; Our Classmate, by Oliver Wendell Holmes; Whittier, by D. A. Wasson; A continuation of The Convulsionists of St. Meard, by Robert Dale Owen; another "House and Home Paper," by Mrs. Stowe; Song, by Alice Cary; Our soldiers; William Makepeace Thackeray, by Bayard Taylor; The Peninsular Campaign; and the usual reviews and literary notices.

Harper's Magazine, for March, contains the usual amount of popular reading in prose and verse, beginning with Mr. Benson J. Lossing's Scenes in the War of 1812, the present number of which is devoted to "Washington and Baltimore." The next prose paper is from the pen and pencil of Mr. T. Addison Richards, which are employed, the one in describing and the other in depicting "The Norwich Amories." Then comes the conclusion of Mr. Fitz Hugh Ludlow's tale, "John Atherton's Tale," the continuation of Mr. Trollope's serial, "The Small House at Allington;" a paper on "Mental Health," by Rev. Dr. Osmond; "Ralph Farnham's Romance," a story by Mr. Horatio Alger, Jr.; "Woman in Comedy," by Mrs. Chas. T. Condon; "The Stomach and Civilization," by Mr. F. L. Parmiento; "Nelly's Touchstone," a tale by Miss Mary E. Dodge; "Mrs. Braden's Home," by Miss Elizabeth S. Phelps (the lady in question by the way, is not the mother of the popular novelist); "A Memorial: W. M. Thackeray" (the article which Mr. Dickens contributed to the February number of the Cornhill, illustrated with a spirited and life-like portrait); "Bracken Hollow," with a Flag of Truce, a reminiscence of Fort Mifflin; "Kitty Dayton," and "Part of the Price." The poems "Alas!" an elegiac on the war, by Miss Ellen A. Hastings; and "By the Sea Shore," by Mr. N. G. Shepard; The "Monthly Record of Recent Events;" "Editor's Easy Chair;" and "Editor's Table" conclude the number.

The Destruction of the Housatonic.  
Lt. T. J. Higginson, who commanded the steamer Housatonic, destroyed by a rebel torpedo off Charleston, sends to the navy department this account of the affair:  
"About 8.45 P. M. of the 17th of Feb., the officer of the deck, acting master J. K. Crosby, discovered something in the water about 100 yards from the vessel, moving toward the ship. It had the appearance of a plank moving on the water, and came directly toward the ship. The time when it was first seen till it was close alongside was about 2 minutes. The torpedo struck the Housatonic forward of the mizen mast, on the starboard side, in a line with the magazine. The after pivot gun being pivoted to port, they were unable to bring a gun to bear upon the torpedo. About one minute after she was close alongside the explosion took place, the Housatonic, sinking stern first, heading to port as she sunk. Most of the crew clung to the rigging, and a boat was dispatched to the Canandaigua, which vessel gallantly came to their assistance, and all were rescued but the following named officers and men:  
Ensign E. C. Hazeltine; Capt. clerk C. O. Muzzy; quartermaster John Williams; landsman Theodore Parker; second-class landsman John Walsh, who are missing and supposed to be drowned."

From the Ninth Regiment.  
FORTRESS MONROE, VIRGINIA,  
February 23, 1864.

To the Editor of The Caledonian:  
Lying at anchor in Hampton Roads to start for Newbern in a few hours, it struck me that I might write something that would interest some of your readers. And I don't know what would interest them more than to relate the conversation of some thirty deserters from the rebel army, with whom I bivouacked last night.  
These men deserted from various Regiments of North Carolina and Virginia troops. Their looks certainly bespeak their sympathy, scantily clothes, hollow-cheeked, sunken-eyed, miserable, deluded men, as they freely acknowledge. These men have all been fighting ever since the war broke out, having originally enlisted for twelve months. One month before the expiration of their term of service the rebel congress passed an act, that all soldiers might re-enlist; in case they did not re-enlist they would be held to service during the war. At that time they were so thoroughly impressed with the belief that they would soon conquer a peace that they cared little for thus being forced into service. But as time wore on a "change came over the spirit of their dreams." Short rations, (for the last year growing shorter,) insufficient clothing and poor pay; their families suffering for articles that Confederate currency would not buy, set them to thinking and then to deserting by the hundreds.

They state that there are two reasons that operate against their deserting:—one is, many feel that they cannot leave their families to the tender mercies of the rebel leaders, another is the story industriously circulated amongst them that they will be forced into our ranks. Although many of them do enlist in our army, yet all with whom I have talked express themselves as being utterly sick and tired of the war. Their rations when they were one pound of bacon and three quarts of meal per day for six men. Some of them have been barefooted for nine weeks. But the most astonishing part of their story is with regard to the utter worthlessness of the Confederate currency. Some of them have on the coarsest of brogans for which they paid 40 dollars; boots 125 dollars. One has on a suit of ordinary grey cassimere for which he paid five hundred dollars. And yet these articles could be bought with greenbacks or specie at prices not unreasonable. These men say that any one who has C. S. A. currency is glad to give fifteen dollars for one dollar of greenback currency, and that although such transactions are illegal yet all are engaged in it from President to private.

I need not present our financial matters in contrast with those of rebellion, yet I cannot forbear to add my testimony in support of the fact that our men are eager for the gray; and coupled with a belief that this war will be ended in one year, is a firm determination that it shall be ended.

There is on every hand here evidences of the man who now commands this department. Two regiments of negro cavalry and a full battery are now drilling in sight of where I write. I wish some of those northern copperheaded dough-faces were here to see how these "ebony lions between man and the baboon" perform military evolutions, it might be the means of getting a new idea into their heads. It is evident to the most uninitiated of critics that they take great pride in accuracy of movements. I asked one of the sable heroes this morning to tell me just what they thought of being armed and drilled. He took off his hat and answered, "Well, Sah, I tell you de secesh don't like it nigh so well as we do, and if we ever gets in de field of battle wid dem we will like it nigh so well as dey does now!" I asked him if they were well treated by their officers, "Oh, yes, sah, we no fault to find."

You may depend upon it that the Corps d'Afrique is destined to play no unimportant part in the coming campaign. But we are getting up steam and I must close. If acceptable to your readers I may write again.  
Stenmer Fairbanks.

Death of Dr. Edward Hitchcock of Amherst College.

Rev. Edward Hitchcock, D. D., L. L. D. from 1845 to 1854 President of Amherst College, and before and after professor at that institution, died of consumption at Amherst, Saturday morning, about 6 o'clock, at the age of 70. For two or three years his health has been gradually failing. There have been several periods when it was thought his end was near. But he has as often rallied, and though heavily weighed down by infirmities, not so much from age as from natural weakness of constitution and a long life of the hardest labor, he has been quite regular and enthusiastic, until very lately, in performing his duties at the college. The death of his wife, however, on the 26th of last May, was a heavy blow to him; and though he bore it with truly Christian resignation, no one that knew how much he loved her, who had been so long in very deep and truth, and not in name only a part of himself, a sharer of his every joy and sorrow, will wonder that he has so soon followed her.

Dr. Hitchcock was born in old Deerfield, May 24, 1793. His father was very poor and could give him no education beyond that of the common school and the village academy. Private studies with the view of entering college were broken up by disease, and the time thus given for meditation changed his views from Unitarianism to Orthodoxy, and turned his thoughts to the ministry, which he entered after teaching in Deerfield academy three years and studying theology at New Haven in the first class under Dr. Taylor. His first and only settlement in the ministry was at Conway, where he remained May 24, 1793. His father was very poor and could give him no education beyond that of the common school and the village academy. Private studies with the view of entering college were broken up by disease, and the time thus given for meditation changed his views from Unitarianism to Orthodoxy, and turned his thoughts to the ministry, which he entered after teaching in Deerfield academy three years and studying theology at New Haven in the first class under Dr. Taylor. His first and only settlement in the ministry was at Conway, where he remained May 24, 1793.

When Dr. Hitchcock entered Amherst college, the institution, though in operation for several years before, was just incorporated by the state, and thus he has been connected with it from the start. The college was unpopular and poor. In his department, natural history and chemistry, he had actually nothing to do with; no specimens, no apparatus. But he went manfully at his work, providing many things out of his own means, depending on his wife for drawings and illustrations, and during the twenty years he held the professorship, it is safe to say that no student felt the want of anything if the teacher did. But to give a history of Dr. Hitchcock's connection with the college would be to give a history of the college itself, so closely were all his thoughts and interests and labors connected with it. From 1845 to 1854 he was President of the college, though the duties of that position were distasteful to him, and he was glad to give it up to his worthy successor, Dr. Stearns. During his presidency he gave instruction in natural history and geology, his investigations in science being chiefly valuable to him for their bearing on religion; and it was through his exertions that a professorship of natural history and geology was permanently founded, the chair of which he filled to the day of his death, though he has for some years given up other duties to younger hands.

To the world at large Dr. Hitchcock is chiefly known by his eminence in scientific attainments, especially geology, in which department he probably had no superior in the world at the time of his death. He suggested and executed the geological survey of Massachusetts, the first scientific survey of an entire state under the authority of the government in the world. He was the first to scientifically examine and classify the fossil foot prints in our Connecticut valley, and his ichnological cabinet at Amherst contains specimens of all those known remains. He was the originator and the first President of the American scientific association, and the last Congress very properly named him as one of the fifty incorporators and members of the American academy of arts and sciences. He was quite a voluminous writer on scientific subjects, being particularly distinguished by his writings on natural history, and the connection of religion and geology. He was also deeply interested in the subject of temperance.

Early in his residence at Amherst he published several works on that subject, some of which were republished in England. He commenced his career as an author by conducting an almanac four years, before he was out of his teens; and the curious in such things can see in the Amherst college library, a dingy little book published in 1815, "The Downfall of Bonaparte, a tragedy," one of the first works of the great scientific writer and expositor. In all he has published more than twenty volumes, besides sermons and tracts, and contributed many articles to periodicals. His latest work "Reminiscences of Amherst College," is but lately from the press, and all the college graduates and friends are rejoiced that he who knew its history best lived to write it.  
Dr. Hitchcock's death will leave a large gap in the faculty of Amherst college, and one not easily filled. And there are many,

both in this and foreign lands, who will be sorry to hear of the death of the eminent man of science, the earnest teacher, the faithful minister. Thousands who knew him only by his writings will regard his death as the loss of a friend; and to those who knew him personally, the news, though not totally unexpected, will still come with crushing severity. He will be greatly missed in the world of science, in the smaller college world, where all looked up to him as a father, and not the least of all will be missed by the returning sons of Amherst, who will long in vain for a sight of the kindly face, and a cordial grasp of the fatherly hand, that is now cold.—Springfield Republican.

A Court Martial in New Zealand.

Our boat having disappeared in the night, we betook ourselves in the morning to the skiff of a friend and searched along the coast for our missing property. After rowing for some distance, we were about to desist for the night, when we caught sight of the "waif" lying on the beach in such a position that it might either have stranded by the waves or been placed there by human agency. The latter appeared the more probable, for, as we landed, a perfect chorus of yells saluted our ears, and looking round, we were disagreeably surprised to see a troop of at least fifty Maories appear from behind the rocks and bear down upon us. Their leader was a fine stalwart man, standing about six feet high, and magnificently proportioned, as most of the New Zealand natives are. Turning to his hand, he motioned them to stop, and then with a haughty step he advanced to me, saying, in the Maorie language, "White man, the Maori rangatira (chief) claims that boat."

Understanding the language, and having some slight acquaintance with the Maori customs, I was able to answer him, and said: "The white man made it. It is his." I should explain here that oratory is held in high estimation among the Maories, and that nothing pleases a rangatira more than to have an opportunity of displaying his eloquence. In the most approved style the chief resumed the discussion as follows: "You see the rangatira. He is great. He has many servants. The sun comes from the waters to give him light. The trees grow to give him fruit. When he would eat the fishes come quick to his hook. When he would fight his enemies come to be killed. The great waters are afraid of him. They wish to make peace. They bring him a boat. He is pleased. He keeps it."

Now, no doubt this speech making was very convincing to his followers, but I didn't view the subject in the same light, so I replied: "The white man takes it," and, putting my shoulder to the boat, I commenced, with the help of my men, to launch it. The launching did not proceed very far, as in an instant I was quietly lying on my back, having been tossed clean over the boat by the orator's sneaky art. This was a sort of thing I had never been